

Statement by the Committee on Transport and Communications 2016/17:TU8

Summary

The Committee on Transport and Communications considers that parts of the Commission's proposal establishing the European Electronic Communications Code conflict with the principle of subsidiarity, and therefore proposes that the Riksdag submit a reasoned opinion to the Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

In the light of the current paradigm shift in the digital sector, the Committee welcomes a revision of the present regulatory framework. However, the Committee opposes that a further transfer of formal competence should take place to EU level in connection with the management of radio spectrum. The Committee therefore has misgivings about some of the constituent proposals that the Commission has prepared, and which entail the introduction of a process of peer review, and that will mean that the rights of use for harmonised radio spectrum shall be valid for a duration of at least 25 years, and that the Commission is to be given powers, by means of implementation provisions, to set common time limits for spectrum allocations, as well as criteria for limiting the number of rights of use to be granted for the use of radio spectrum. The Committee considers that the Commission in the above-mentioned constituent proposals does not sufficiently take into account the need on the part of national regulatory authorities to themselves be given scope for action in order in the best way possible to be able achieve important political objectives. The Committee therefore considers that they are not compatible with the principle of subsidiarity.